

Application No.: 10/084,706
Filing date: February 26, 2002
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Attorney Docket No: 0228us420

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner restricted pending claims 88-108 under 35 U.S.C. § 121, requiring Applicants to elect one of the following claim groups for prosecution in the present application:

- I. Claims 88-99, drawn to an interferon β polypeptide, classified in claim 530, subclass 399;
- II. Claims 100-107, drawn to a method of recombinant expression of a variant including nucleic acid, expression vector, and host cells comprising same, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1; and
- III. Claim 108, drawn to a method for producing a variant IFNB molecule, classification dependent upon IFNB molecule structure.

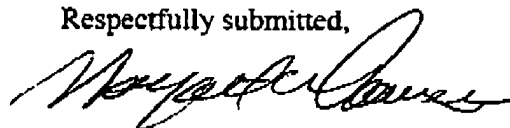
In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect **Group I (claims 88-99)** without traverse.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (650) 298-5809.

December 22, 2004
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Respectfully submitted,



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